

GETTING SCHOOLED



Photos: Top: Shannon's graduation with Keith Davy, Cru's Director of Theological Development, Middle: The last night of Cru17 conference, with thousands of staff friends and partners. Bottom: Our lovely Hadley in 4th of July garb.



It's one thing to work with students on a college campus, and it's another thing to be a student on a college campus! This summer, we find ourselves in that surreal state--living in student housing, carrying our backpacks laden with laptops and notebooks and coffee thermoses to class each day. After picking up Hadley from the company of her toddler friends at Cru childcare and maybe enjoying a scenic Colorado afternoon, it's homework time--sometimes over a pizza. (when in Rome...)

Tonight, I (Shannon) am writing a paper on the biblical evidence for both the full humanity and divinity of Christ, why this matters for our salvation, and how it impacts evangelism. These doctrines not only stimulate me to greater personal worship of Christ, but provide a crucial framework for my ministry and the ministry of those I train. My favorite assignment has been reading David Platt's book, "Counter Culture," which fleshes out how the Gospel not only restores individual sinners to Christ, but how we can participate in God's plan to restore our entire (broken) world to Christ. Theology, as I've learned, is an intensely practical matter! This summer, I'll be "graduating" from Cru's Institute of Biblical Studies, since I'll have completed my final 2 theological training courses.

My (Dan's) classes are focused on developing me as a leader in our organization. Though I've been acting as a team leader for some time, I'm excited to receive the requisite training. Today we focused on how keep our teams aligned and focused on reaching the entire Lowcountry, not just one school. A phrase that stuck out to me was, "Your teammates are doing the best they can with what they got, but a leader's job is to help them improve." Another quote from a few days earlier on the subject of servant leadership: "A leader must get used to seeing their fruit grow on other people's trees." These quotes are related in that my role will be more and more to develop other staff and help them to improve in their fruitfulness rather than just working with students.

"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me – practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you." (Phil 4:9)